

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 19, 2006. Claims 1 and 3 to 10 are pending in the application, with Claim 2 having been cancelled, and Claims 7 to 10 having been added. Claims 1 and 3 to 6 have been amended, and Claims 1, 5 and 6 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

A new title has been selected.

Claims 1 to 6 were rejected under § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,765,177 (Nakatsuyama). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns processing a document file in pages. A document structure of a first document file is displayed in a display region in a tree structured form. An instruction is input to insert at least one second document file to the first document file displayed in the display region by dragging the second document file into an insertion position in the document structure of the first document file. In accordance with the input instruction, a menu dialog of candidates is displayed for selecting an insertion method of the second document file in inserting the second document file to the first document file. A determination is made as to which candidate is selected from the candidates in the menu dialog. The second document file is inserted to the first document file on the basis of the insertion method of the determined candidate. The displayed menu dialog of the candidates includes at least a first type in which one chapter is newly generated at the insertion position and pages of the second document file are

arranged in the newly generated chapter, and a second type in which pages of the second document file are arranged in an existing chapter at the insertion position.

Thus, among its many features, the present invention provides that (i) an instruction is input to insert at least one second document file to a first document file displayed in a display region, by dragging the second document file into an insertion position in a document structure of the first document file, (ii) in accordance with the input instruction, a menu dialog of candidates is displayed for selecting an insertion method of the second document file in inserting the second document file to the first document file, and (iii) the displayed menu dialog of the candidates includes at least a first type in which one chapter is newly generated at the insertion position and pages of the second document file are arranged in the newly generated chapter, and a second type in which pages of the second document file are arranged in an existing chapter at the insertion position.

By virtue of feature (i), an insertion position can be designated with a user interface operation. By virtue of feature (ii), a menu dialog can be displayed dynamically in response to an insertion operation by dragging the second document file, which is seen to facilitate instructions for insertion.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claims 1, 5 and 6 are respectively directed to a method, a program and an apparatus.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention of the subject application. In particular, Nakatsuyama is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features that (i) an instruction is input to insert at least one second document file to a first document file displayed in a display region, by dragging the second document file into an insertion position in a document structure of the first document file,

(ii) in accordance with the input instruction, a menu dialog of candidates is displayed for selecting an insertion method of the second document file in inserting the second document file to the first document file, and (iii) the displayed menu dialog of the candidates includes at least a first type in which one chapter is newly generated at the insertion position and pages of the second document file are arranged in the newly generated chapter, and a second type in which pages of the second document file are arranged in an existing chapter at the insertion position.

As understood by Applicants, Nakatsuyama discloses a document processing method in which a document part file is inserted into a document file, at a location indicated by an identifier. See Nakatsuyama, column 10, lines 31 to 37. Commands and scripts can be designed for inserting the document part file into the document file at the location indicated by the identifier. See Nakatsuyama, column 19, lines 21 to 35.

Although Nakatsuyama may be seen to disclose that a document part file can be inserted into a document file at an identified location, Nakatsuyama is not seen to disclose or suggest that an instruction is input to insert at least one second document file to a first document file displayed in a display region, by dragging the second document file into an insertion position in a document structure of the first document file. Nakatsuyama is also not seen to disclose or suggest that in accordance with the input instruction, a menu dialog of candidates is displayed for selecting an insertion method of the second document file in inserting the second document file to the first document file. In addition, Nakatsuyama is not seen to disclose or suggest that the displayed menu dialog of the candidates includes at least a first type in which one chapter is newly generated at the

insertion position and pages of the second document file are arranged in the newly generated chapter, and a second type in which pages of the second document file are arranged in an existing chapter at the insertion position. Moreover, Nakatsuyama is not seen to disclose or suggest the attendant benefits provided by such features.

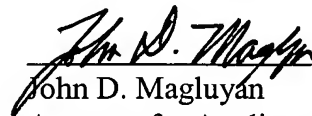
Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1, 5 and 6 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied reference.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied reference for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
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our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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